

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 004533
ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY EA/ROC:BLEVIN
APPROVED BY EA:ARMSTRONG
NSC:GLEYSTEEEN
P:HABIB
S/S:MR GAMBLE

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P 081624Z JAN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 004533

EXDIS, FOR AMBASSADOR FROM HUMMEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MNUC, TW

SUBJECT: US NUCLEAR TEAM VISIT

REF: (A) TAIPEI 8546; (B) STATE 311288

1. WE AGREE WITH YOUR ANALYSIS OF THE PREMIER'S CRUCIAL
ROLE IN THE INER/COMPRIMO CASE AND AS THE DECISION-MAKER
ON ROC NUCLEAR POLICY MATTERS. FOR REASONS FAMILIAR TO
YOU, WE DO NOT WISH TO CONFRONT THE PREMIER DIRECTLY ON
THE VIOLATION OF HIS SEPTEMBER ASSURANCES. YOU WILL SOON
RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS BY SEPTTEL TO HAVE DCM RAISE INER/
COMPRIMO ISSUE WITH FRED CHIEN IN MANNER WHICH REVEALS TO
ROC OUR KNOWLEDGE OF ITS POST-SEPTEMBER DEALINGS WITH
COMPRIMO. THIS WILL BE SOURCED TO INFORMATION PROVIDED
BY THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT AND DONE PRIOR TO TEAM'S ARRIVAL.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 004533

2. WE DO NOT VIEW TEAM VISIT AS A MAJOR VEHICLE FOR
ADDRESSING INER/COMPRIMO ISSUE OR FOR MAKING HIGH LEVEL
REPRESENTATIONS ON NUCLEAR MATTERS. WE DO NOT FAVOR
FURTHER REITERATION TO PREMIER AT THIS TIME REGARDING
U.S. POLICY ON NUCLEAR MATTERS AS YOU HAVE RECENTLY
COVERED THIS SUBJECT WITH HIM. MOREOVER, HE WILL BE AWARE

OF THE APPROACH TO CHIEN.

3. TEAM IS PRIMARILY COMPOSED OF TECHNICALLY QUALIFIED PERSONS AND WILL BE LARGELY ENGAGED IN FACT-FINDING MISSION. WE DO BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT A POLITICAL COMPONENT IS NECESSARY TO ASSURE THAT DISCUSSIONS WITH ROC OFFICIALS ARE GUIDED BY OUR POLICY INTERESTS VIS-A-VIS TAIWAN. WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT FOR THIS PURPOSE THE EA/ROC OFFICE DIRECTOR IS THE APPROPRIATE INDIVIDUAL TO LEAD THE TEAM. WE BELIEVE THAT THE TEAM'S DEPUTY, HELFRICH, PROVIDES THE TYPE OF TECHNICAL/PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND AND INVOLVEMENT IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH DECISION-MAKING ON NUCLEAR MATTERS WHICH YOU AND WE SEE AS ESSENTIAL TO VISIT.

4. WHILE WE DO NOT WISH TO HAVE A MEETING WITH THE PREMIER ON NUCLEAR MATTERS, WE RECOGNIZE THAT HE MAY WELL REQUEST A MEETING WITH THE TEAM, WHICH IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO DECLINE. IF THAT OCCURS, TEAM WOULD LIMIT ITSELF TO LISTENING TO WHAT THE PREMIER HAS TO SAY AND TO REITERATING THE TONE OF CONTINUING CONCERN WHICH WILL BE REFLECTED THROUGHOUT VISIT, WITHOUT REFERRING SPECIFICALLY TO INER/COMPRIMO ISSUE.

5. WHILE WE AGREE THAT IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO AVOID PUBLICITY ENTIRELY, EITHER IN TAIWAN OR THE US, WE DO NOT WISH TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THE VISIT BY MAKING A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT. WE WILL USE PRESS GUIDANCE DESCRIBED IN REFTTEL.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 004533

6. WE WILL SHORTLY BE SENDING YOU SEPARATE TELEGRAMS GIVING THE TEAM'S COMPOSITION AND TRAVEL PLANS AND PROVIDING FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING THE TEAM'S SCHEDULE, BASED ON YOUR VERY HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS CONTAINED IN TAIPEI 0069.

KISSINGER

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NNN

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